

~~SECRET~~

30 July 1962

PERU

- I. Military junta seized power on 18 July.
 - A. Ostensible reason: the armed forces charged APRA with massive electoral fraud.
 - B. Actual reason: to keep old enemy, Haya de la Torre, out of presidency.
- II. Junta is now firmly in control.
 - A. Promised free elections on 9 June 1963, no party to be excluded. US Embassy has reservation about sincerity of this promise, however, believing APRA victory would be no more palatable next year than this year.
 - B. On 28 July, junta restored constitutional guarantees suspended at time of the coup.
 - C. General public apathetic--seemingly prefers order under junta to the confusion which followed the election.
 - D. Anti-APRA elements--Communists, leftist Belaunde Terry, and oligarchy--welcomed junta from beginning.
 - E. Former dictator Gen. Manuel Odria, third-ranking candidate in elections, now favors junta.
 - F. Opposition group--Frente Civico--led by former prime minister Pedro Beltran, seems to be falling apart.
 - G. Even APRA has dropped overt opposition.
 - 1. Refuses support, reserves right to criticize, but will not resort to violence unless persecuted.
 - 2. Haya de la Torre probably will not be APRA candidate in 1963.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

H. President Prado was detained aboard a ship in Callao harbor until yesterday (Sunday) when he was released.

1. Junta originally announced Prado to be released but later (23 July) said he would be tried for complicity in electoral fraud.
2. Junta spokesman now says Prado free to remain in Peru or go abroad. Portugal and Spain are possibilities.

I. Congressmen planned to convene congress on schedule--28 July.

1. Planned "secret" session.
2. Abandoned plans on 27 July after junta statement that no such congress would be tolerated.

III. International repercussions.

A. US and Latin America

1. Only Haiti announced recognition.
2. Mexico follows the "Estrada doctrine," under which a change in government does not suspend diplomatic relations.
3. Argentina and others likely to announce recognition in next few days.
4. Venezuela called for meeting of foreign ministers of OAS to consider collective action (unspecified) against Peru.
 - a. Claims support of eleven of twenty OAS nations.
 - b. Council of OAS will meet this week to consider calling a meeting of foreign ministers.
 - c. US thus far not committed to specific OAS action; at present favors recourse to Interamerican Peace Committee, unless future developments in Peru justify a meeting of foreign ministers.
 - d. Considerable resistance to meeting of foreign ministers likely, at least from Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

B. Europe

1. Portugal, Spain, and Switzerland have recognized.
2. France and the UK are on point of doing so.
3. Others undecided, officially. Privately, favor recognition.
4. Press reports Italy and Holland have decided to continue diplomatic relations. No official confirmation.

~~SECRET~~